



Bonjour et bienvenue to  
FRENCH ETC.  
[www.frenchetc.org](http://www.frenchetc.org)

So far, you've learned how to introduce yourself, the basic basics about French grammar and you've learned numbers. Don't worry if numbers are still shaky for you. We'll have many opportunities to go over them again. But today, we're getting to serious material. This unit is called "La carte s'il vous plaît". It means: The menu please. We will go over vocabulary you can use in a restaurant to order food from the menu. There is also a list of extra vocabulary, of typical French dishes that will make your ordering much more pleasant.

FRENCH ETC.'s podcasts teach you the latest contemporary French, the way it's spoken on the streets of Paris and in the cafés in Nice, with authentic useful expressions you can use right away.

The worksheet is available to FRENCH ETC. members.

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## the menu please le menu s'il vous plaît

phone tutorial



Unit 5-Chapitre 5 Lesson 1-Leçon 1

## culture capsules - clins d'œil culturels

### The menu

The word menu means two things: the list of dishes the restaurant offers and a set meal the chef has already fixed for you. It's either an appetizer and an entree, or an entree plus a dessert, or the three, depending on your budget. Ordering a menu is generally cheaper than ordering the same dishes separately "à la carte". Menus are more for lunch than dinner. You may also order "à la carte", any dish you want from the menu.

### Coffee

Coffee is generally served after your meal and is black, unless you ask for "Du lait, s'il vous plaît." good experience?

Easy. Make sure you have a good guide with you. Pick the one that suits your taste and don't forget to reserve in advance, as a lot of good restaurants are full often.

**Don't say** "Garçon !" as it might be perceived as being belittling.

**voc in context**

Écoutez la baladodiffusion  
/frenchetc.org/ et répétez

la carte --> the menu  
*s'il vous plaît* --> please  
 j'ai faim --> I am hungry  
 je voudrais --> I would like  
 assiette (f.) --> plate  
 de --> of  
 crudité (f.) --> raw vegetable  
 assiette de crudités (f.) -->  
 raw vegetable plate  
 comme --> as, for  
 entrée (f.) --> appetizer  
 steak-frites (m.) --> steak  
 and fries  
 plat de résistance (m.) -->  
 main dish, *entree in the*  
*USA*  
 addition (f.) --> check

**text**

Écoutez la baladodiffusion  
/frenchetc.org/ et répétez

La carte, s'il vous plaît

J'ai faim.

Je voudrais une assiette  
de crudités comme en-  
trée.

Je voudrais un steak-frites  
comme plat de résis-  
tance.

L'addition s'il vous plaît.  
Merci.

**text translation**

Listen to the podcast  
/frenchetc.org/ and repeat

The menu please.

I am hungry.

I would like a raw vege-  
table plate as an appe-  
tizer.

I would like a steak and  
fries as a main dish.

The check please. Thanks.

## Extra Vocabulary

assiette de charcuterie --> cold cut plate  
au lait --> with milk  
café (coffee), déca (decaf coffee), thé (tea), expresso (expresso)  
crème renversée (f.) --> flan  
dessert (m.) --> dessert  
du sucre --> (with) sugar please  
gâteau au chocolat (m.) --> chocolate cake  
glace à la fraise (f.) --> strawberry ice-cream  
mousse (f.) --> mousse (fluffy egg white dessert)  
plateau de fromage (m.) --> cheese platter  
riz au lait (m.) --> rice pudding  
salade (verte) (f.) --> (green) salad  
sole meunière (f.) --> lightly floured sole w/ lemon butter

### How would you like it cooked ?

bien cuit --> well done  
cuit à point --> medium rare  
saignant --> rare  
bleu --> almost raw

## Practice

Translate the following sentences into French:

1. I'd like a steak-frites for an entree please.
2. The check please.
3. Oh, I'm hungry.

Answers:

1. Je voudrais un steak-frites comme plat de résistance s'il vous plaît.
2. L'addition s'il vous plaît.
3. Oh, j'ai faim.